

The meeting was chaired by Maxine Lautenberg and recorded by Terry Diggory.

#### I. Land Acknowledgment

II. Notes from 2/25/26 were received.

#### III. Updates from service providers

-- Fran Wurster, Migrant Education Outreach: Self-deportation continues, including one family who left today. Much fear, especially connected to ICE check-ins. People are not opening doors or answering phones unless they know who is calling.

-- Ruth Hernández-Ríos, LifeWorks Immigrant Services: Legal services busy. ELL enrollment booming.

Gearing up to reopen at Saratoga Race Course. Volunteers needed for summer ELL and food distribution at track. Upcoming Family Preparedness program in planning stage. Partnered with Skidmore classes fall and spring. Sociology class providing student conversation partners for ELL. Possible summer internships.

-- Karen Weinberg, RAM (Remote Area Medical Clinic), April 11-12 at Schuylerville Central School. Spanish interpreters needed. Contact [karenweinberg@me.com](mailto:karenweinberg@me.com).

#### IV. Recent news:

A. National: Continued gridlock in Congress over DHS funding and ICE restrictions. Increased cap on H2B visas but decreased wage scale for H2A visas. SCOTUS decision supports denial of asylum claims in immigration courts. Much anti-immigrant action is taking place through obscure rule-making (NYIC published recent list), not just highly visible ICE arrests. Recent threat to block remittances being sent to Haiti.

B. State: Legislative leaders and Governor are moving toward an immigration package that may weaken provisions in bills such as NY4All. SIC was recently approached about postcard campaign for NY4All and Dignity Not Detention. Terry will share details in SIC e-news and with Christin Iacolucci and Linda McKenney for League of Women Voters.

C. Local: Terry published letter to editor in Sunday Gazette (3/15) countering attacks on immigrant truckers. Recent coverage of immigrant support efforts in North Country (Adirondack Explorer and North County Public Radio, 3/24) prominently featured Richard Leach of Adirondack Regional Immigration Collaborative (ARIC).

#### V. Tracking concerns

A. Local government: Letter urging repeal of “no-camping” ban was presented to Saratoga Springs City Council (3/17), with Eric Lawson reading part of the letter on behalf of SIC. Eric, Judy LaPook and Mark Long will meet as a SIC delegation with Saratoga County District Attorney Brett Eby on April 8.

B. Shelters, RISE, Code Blue: Advocates for the Code Blue shelter planned by Shelters of Saratoga (SOS) made a strong presentation at Saratoga County Board of Supervisors public hearing (3/11). The Board is expected to adopt the resolution allowing the project to move forward. SOS is already halfway toward meeting the project’s \$8M fundraising goal. Stephanie Romeo has been appointed SOS Executive Director following the brief tenure of Mary Feldman.

C. Housing: SIC always welcomes leads on short-term housing that may be available for immigrant community members.

#### VI. SIC operations

A. Rapid Response—ICE activity in Saratoga area only sporadic; frequent in Albany area. Maxine reported hearing about ICE form 60-001 (privacy waiver) as useful for those accompanying community members to ICE appointments. Ruth Hernández-Ríos will consult with LifeWorks attorneys about this.

B. Recent sign-ons :

[2/26/26] Protecting Immigrant Families letter opposing proposed rule to bar mixed-status families from living in HUD-assisted housing.

[3/19/26] CoverageForAll letter urging healthcare support in NYS budget

C. Liaisons—no additional report

D. Emergency fund -- \$2140 expended in March for rent subsidies. Current available balance roughly \$10K.

E. Social media—No report but thanks to Jen Hernandez for keeping SIC social media current.

VII. Events and Programs

A. Review

1. Feb 27, 5:30-8:30 PM, CREATE PullUp, Embassy Suites, Saratoga Springs
2. March 11, 9:00 AM-Noon, Interagency Awareness Day, City Center, Saratoga Springs
3. March 13, Refugee Shabbot, Temple Sinai
4. March 22, 6:00 PM: Interfaith Vigil, Broadway, Saratoga Springs

B. Upcoming

1. March 28, No Kings III
2. March 30, NYIC Capital Region Volunteer Meetup, Albany
3. April 11-12, RAM clinic, Schuylerville Central School—see III above
4. April 11, 6:00 PM: Capital District Border Watch benefit dinner for Capital Region Sanctuary Coalition Mutual Aid. First Lutheran Church, Albany.
5. April 18, 10:00 AM-Noon: KYR Milton Community Center, sponsored by coalition of local groups
6. April 21, 6:00 PM: CAPTeen Real Talk event: "Immigration: Myth vs Fact" Clifton Park Library
7. June 13: Flag Day Parade—assume SIC involvement in Social Justice contingent if there is one

VIII. Working Groups

A. Education— Terry Diggory [tdiggory@skidmore.edu](mailto:tdiggory@skidmore.edu) mid-semester hiatus; next meeting in May— various forms of continuing education are eligible for consideration, not just standard degree programs.

B. Government and Business—need coordinator

C. NYRA/ Backstretch – Terry Diggory [tdiggory@skidmore.edu](mailto:tdiggory@skidmore.edu)-- see III above

D. Skidmore—Diana Barnes [dbarnes@skidmore.edu](mailto:dbarnes@skidmore.edu) -- see III above and VIII.E below—student Max Nelson is planning another bake sale to benefit SIC Emergency Fund

E. Programming and Events—Maxine Lautenberg [siccocoormll@gmail.com](mailto:siccocoormll@gmail.com) – recent meeting held— consider public presentation of immigration-related research by Skidmore students?

IX. Volunteers

A. SIC maintains lists of those willing to help with interpretation (many languages), provide transportation, or supply temporary housing

B. ELL volunteers can contact Saratoga Public Library or LifeWorks

C. Also contact LifeWorks to help in accompaniment or for student internships

X. Reports on recent workshops/webinars

Maxine reported on webinars sponsored by Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action (3/3), National Immigration Project (3/24), and National Immigration Law Center (3/35). She will share recordings when/if available.

XI. Next SIC meeting: Thursday, April 30, 6:30 PM.